Prominent People Who Have Grown Weary of Existence.

Despite Titles, Power and Pelf, the Duke of Bedford Preferred Death to Life, The Case of Prince Bandouin-A Roths child Fails to Kill Rimself.



THE DUKE OF BEDFORD

Mighty are the mysteries of existence but mightier still are the mysteries of man's taking off. Death coils a buit to human activity, as in the case of Secre-tary Windom at the banquet table; the captain, cheering on his troops in the full flush of victory and health, receives a leaden messenger and is no more; the bidden guest, who hastes to the wedding feast, ocumbs to the accident of a railway collision, and finds for his host not the smiling bridegroom, but the dark angel whom all must meet. In a thousand and one ways the summons comes, but when it is not only welcome but self invited by those can command the resources of the world to satisfy their desires, the ordinary mortal pauses in wonder, and puts to him-self the query: "If the great and powerful of earth discuin existence, why should the average mortal cling to a life in which the ements of toil and sorrow dominate those of happiness and comfort?"

, for instance, would have thought that the wealthiest poble of England, the premier landlord of Great Britain, could find this world of so little value as to has the famous Duke of Bedford courted death and won it through suicide. He was 72 years of age and the ninth of his line. He



in the Church of England he was a power. were thirty-two liv Able sons and beautiful daughters had been born of a happy marriage, and the light of prosperity seemed to shine unsuadowed on his pathway. His long and netive career had evoked but one criticism. that of barshness toward tenants who failed to meet their financial obligations. He was one of the few nobles of Great Britain who retained feudal privileges,

Under a grant continued to him from a of collecting tall from every vehicle coming within a quarter of a mile of Covent of the titles and fame of the presence of pain, and rather than endure at Youngstown, O., some years since. the evils to which he was subjected faced on a sick had, from which he had recombine nevery of the moment and sought relief in He had nothing with which to reand prospects, he preferred the tomb to the

If rumors which are vet to be established as incis are taken into consideration there is more of romance and of tragedy althe demise of Prince Baudonin than of the Duke of Bedford. The prince, so the story goes, had loved beneath his station, and



BARON GUSTAVE DE ROTHSCHILD. iding that that love could never be realized sought peace in the eterant silence of the grave. Opposed, however, to the tale of suicide, is the authorhative statement Whichever version of the event is true, the fact remains that the young heir to the throne of Belgium has gone to his last acas great a mystery as that which pe duke who was expected to succeed the present superor upon the throne.

Neither painful disease nor ungratified possion had anything to do with the recent titempt of Baron Gustave de Rethschild to end an unlucky existence. The baron's trouble was solely financial. He belongs to a family which never forgives commercial measure, and his endeavor to kill his offered glose upon an loss of 40,000

succeed, but In this, as in its previous speculative efforts, is made a fellure, and be muy be expected in the future to retrieve his financial losses. He had a precedent, however, for his rash act, as it is not so very long ago that his nephew, the Baron James de Rothschild, crazed by ill luck in business affairs, blew out his brains in the presence of his norritled mother.

Occasionally monetary troubles unsettle Occasionally monetary troubles unsettle a citizen of America as much as they do a European nobleman. This seems to be the case with Henry Thompson, an eccentric tradesman of New York city, who has not been heard of for two years, and who it is now supposed committed suicide at Yonkers and received identification, afterward disproved, as a person named Edgar. Twenty years ago Mr. Thompson was a man of wealth and standing in the community where he lived. He failed in 1873 munity where he lived. He failed in 1873, built up a new fortune, failed again in 1879, and thereafter went steadily down hill. When last heard of he was practically a pauper, whose family had been scattered and whose friends had forgotten him. One SUICIDE OF A RICH NOBLEMAN day he left his humble lodgings and never

Soon after his departure intelligence arrived that through the death of English relatives he had failen heir to an estate valued at \$100,000. The question now to be decided is whether he is the man who took his own life at the Getty house in Yonkers, or whether he is still alive, a wanderer upon the face of the earth and not cognizant of the wealth that awaits

If there is any moral to be drawn from the stories here set down it is that suicide is cowardice; that the man who doesn't know when he is whipped in the battle of



[From a photograph taken twenty years ago.] only hang on and make a good fight, he

to the sunshine peaks of success.

NOT A MAN ESCAPED. A Pennsylvania Mine Horror of Appail-

ing Proportions. "Mine explosion! Over 100 men instantly killed!" Such was the appalling dispatch flashed over the country the day from Greensburg, Pa. And further research has but increased the magnitude of the calamity, for ninety-seven victims in a state which forbids identification. The whole region seems to have gon

wild" is the report of the operators; and no wonder, for there is reason to believe that the accident was the result of negligence. The officials at first asserted that the mine was carefully inspected by the fire boss, and that gas was never known in the ad been a soldier and a statesman, and workings, and in proof thereof produced the usual certificate in printed form that "the working places in the Mammoth mine are in fit condition for the workers therein. Although this certificate begins, "We, the undersigned," it has but one name affixed, that of William Sneath, He tended a ball the night before, and left it at 2:35 a. m. to make his examination. The men went to work at 5 a. m. and at 9 the explosion occurred. There are comments as to the condition of the fire boss at the time he left the ballroom, and regret is expressed that in order to lessen expense the company had lately dismissed Pete Lowry, the assistant mine boss, leaving but one man to do the work of two.

Superintendent Keighly, of the Mam-moth shaft, is in a peculiarly unfortunate condition, as it was under his superintend-



THE BREAKER OF MAMMOTH SHAFT. ence that the recent Dunbar disaster or mediavel ancestor be exercised the right curred. The popular frenzy was so great that District Master Workman Robert W. Watchern issued a special address to the sole proprietor. Yet, in his old age, this leaders have been appealed to. Superin-

The legal authorities declare that Mr. those of which he had no knowledge. Lying Keighly is not to blame for this accident, and there is a general demand upon the of present recovery, he succumbed to the legislature for more stringent laws on inspection. Of the identified dead thirty-two proach himself beyond his severity toward of Polish and Hungarian names in the list, and of most of the single men nothing whatever is known. been buried in the Catholic cemetery at Scottdale, the others being taken else-where by friends. Not one man in the mine at the time escaped.

> A Singular Church Attraction. Many people will remember the recent hanging of Tom Woolfolk, a Georgian, who committed wholesale butchery. No the gold. one ever thought that Tom's hideous deeds would form the basis of a religious attraction, yet such is the case. A colored church in Albany, Ga., several nights since, says rical presentation of that terrible tragedy. The presentation was a rare and roaring success, and the pantomime ax was not long in crushing the life out of nine pantomime bodies, and then came the gallows scene, when the life of the bloody axman was given up in expiation of the terrible

If the presentation of the tragedy within the confines of a building devoted and consecrated to divine worship is a little out of the opilizary run of things, it nevertheless | learn. shows that the competition for increased membership among the colored charches of Albany is warm enough to exact a cast ing about for new and original features of attraction in order to maintain the hold upon members, and the church which presented the Woolfolk tragedy in pantomime seems to have found the kind of at-



Blind Bill-Naw: I never sees nothin'

### KIDNAPED!

"Perhaps the strangest adventure I ever had during my twenty years upon the sea," said Capt. Newins, "was during the summer of 1858. I was 15 years old at the time, and was living with my

parents in San Francisco. "My chief delight in those days was the study of navigation, of which I never grew tired. My father, who was a master of that science, being a retired sea captain, took great pains to gratify my desire for knowledge in that direction, and in order to afford me a chance to pursue my studies he made arrangements to send me on a voyage to Hong Kong on the Jeannette.

"The Jeannette was commanded by Capt. Guy Wentworth, an old friend of my father, and as he had always been kind to me I anticipated a most pleasant voyage.

"I was provided with a set of navigator's instruments, including a costly watch, and was to keep a reckoning through the voyage.

"In addition to the ship's crew there were on board the Jeannette about twenty Chinamen, who had made large sums of money in the gold fields, and were returning to their native land to enjoy their wealth. Their money, which was nearly all in gold dust and nuggets, was stored on board the ship.

"Among the sailors on board the Jeannette was a man by the name of Jack Peters. He could not have been less than 50 years of age, tall, raw boned, with a complexion as brown as an autumn leaf. From the very first he seemed to take a great liking to me, and seemed greatly interested in my progress in learning navigation. At every opportunity he would engage me in conversation, yet I could not make up my mind to like him.

"There was something about the man that caused me to distrust him, in spite of his evident disposition to make me his friend.

"We had been at sea nearly five weeks when one night, just as I was preparing to turn in, Peters came to my room and asked me to go with him. Joe Braddon, he said, who was taking his turn at the wheel, wanted to speak to me.

"I thought it an odd request, as I had but a slight acquaintance with Braddon. but I followed him, little dreaming of the startling events that were soon to

"The night was intensely dark, and a beavy mist hung over the sea. I had not taken a dozen steps after leaving my room when I was suddenly seized from behind by strong arms and borne to the deck. I was about to make an outcry, when a hand was placed over my mouth and a harsh voice warned me that if I made the least alarm I would be knocked on the head and thrown into

the sea. "This induced me to remain quiet while my hands were securely tied behind my back. Then some one took me from the deck, and slipping over the rail descended into a boat that had been lowered alongside the vessel. I was thrust down in the bottom of the boat and commanded to keep quiet upon peril

"So astonished and bewildered had I been at the sudden assault that it was some time before I could realize what was taking place. I sat there like one stupefied, huddled down, while a dozen of the sailors descended from the ship and took their places in the boat, and the ship swept on her course and was soon lost to sight in the gloom.

been taken from the ship?

"'We'll let you know all soon enough, replied the voice of Peters. 'We've got use fer ye, an' if ye do the right thing we'll treat ve all fair.' " 'An' if he don't,' said one of the

sailors in a threatening tone. " 'We'll feed him ter the sharks,' fin-

ished Peters in a calm voice. "Some of the men now hoisted the sail and the boat was turned to the northwest. My hands were then unbound, and miners against violence, and other labor I was free to move about the boat as I pleased, but I was cautioned to make no shot noise in case we were pursued by the house of Russell proved recreant in the Michael Kane, the Molly Maguire leader, ship. For nearly an hour we continued

our course in silence, then Peters said: " 'I reckon thar ain't no use in disguisip' matters, now that we've got the boy in our power. The fact is,' he continued, addressing me, 'we've jist releave families. There is a large proportion lieved the Jeannette uv a little uv her gold-about \$100,000, I reckon-and we want yer ter belp us git away with it. The gold all belonged to them heathen Chinamen, an' it didn't look like the fair thing for them to take it out of the country where they made it, an' we decided to bring part uv it back-kind uv an export duty, you see. Now, if you'll help us to git to Formosa we'll do the fair thing by you, an' you'll git your part of

"'I don't want any of it,' I replied indignantly. I will not be a party to your robbing scheme, but I suppose I can't help myself about assisting you to get ashore, since I am with you, but don't think that I would not give you

all ever to the authorities if I could.' "'Oh, we'll risk that,' laughed Peters. Only you pilot us to Formosa and we'll do the rest. We'll see that you don't lose nothing, and besides we know you've been wantin' a chance to try your skill at navigatin', and we sin't in favor uv keepin' a boy back when he wants to

"This speech brought a hearty laugh

from the sailors. "I now began to understand the situation in which I was placed. That the failed to do their bidding I well knew, yet I felt it my duty to make some attempt to thwart their plans. But I must have time to think, and to gain this it was necessary for me to appear as passive as possible, not to excite suspicion. As soon as the robbery was discovered I knew that the Jeannette would double on her course and try to run down the robbers, and there might be a chance of my arresting them if I managed matters rightly, but any attempt to deceive my captors would be a dangerous undertaking, and should I be discovered would, in all probability, cost me my life. Knowing this, I recognised the necessity of

using the greatest caution in what I did. "The night was still dark, with a heavy mist hanging over the sea, affording an excellent opportunity for the boat to escape the vessel. It was fully two hours before Peters would allow even a match to be lit to look at the compass to ascertain our course. Then the boat For several moments I stood there al-

was headed for the northwest. "The night passed, and when morning untion. Then the deadly peril that sur-

a dense fog. On taking my bearing I found, as near as I could calculate, that we were 21 dega. 12 mins. north latitude, and 122 degs. 54 mins. east longitude. This would make our position about 140 miles east by some 30 miles south of the island of Formosa, and nearly 800 miles east of Hong Kong. By keeping on a direct western course I could readily see that we would miss Formosa full thirty miles and follow in the wake of the Jeannette. As I reflected on this fact it suddenly occurred to me that I might mislead the robbers as to our true position, and while pretending to pilot them to Formosa I might induce them to continue on toward Hong Kong, thereby providing a possibility of encountering the Jeannette. But scarcely had this resolution taken place in my mind when Peters approached and began to examine the chart, asking me to show him

our position. "In response to his request I pointed to a spot one degree north of our true position, venturing the remark that we would reach the island the quickest by keeping in a due western course.

"He made no reply to my remark, but after asking a few questions as to the probable distance to the island he turned to his men and gave orders for the boat to be headed for the north.

"My heart sank within me at this, and for a moment I believed that my deception had been discovered. However, the next moment he explained to the men that it was his object to get as far out of the track of the Jeannette as possible before making for the island.

"Being thus reassured, I ventured to suggest that the Jeannette would most likely search for us among the Bosher islands that lay close to us on the south. but Peters cut me off with the pert remark that I was not brought along to give advice. This left me with no alternative but to quietly submit to be ing carried away beyond the possibility of encountering the Jeannette.

"My knowledge of the island to which we were bound was of the most meager character, and all I could recall regard ing it was that it lay some thirty leagues off the coast of Fu-Kina, a province in southeastern China, and was infested with a tribe of savage and warlike na-

"All that day we continued our cours to the north, then turned westward, and two days later sighted the rock bound coast of eastern Formosa. Continuing our course northward for several leagues we entered a narrow inlet, and passing up this for four or five miles, we landed in a secluded spot, where we disembarked and concealed the boat under a clump of trees that overhung a narrow neck in the little bay.

"In a level spot about 200 yards from the shore a camp was made, and here we remained for three days before I learned anything regarding the future plans of my captors. Then, from what I overheard from Peters in his conversation with the others, I learned that we were to remain in concealment there for three or four weeks, perhaps, when a small vessel-a smuggler on the Chinese coast, I gathered—commanded by an old friend and pal of Peters, would arrive and carry us to Australia. In order to carry out this plan one of the conspirators had been left aboard the Jeannette, and on his arrival at Hong Kong he was to see the smuggler, whose ship would probably be at that port, and acquaint him with the business on hand, and pilot him to the place agreed upon on the west coast of Fermesa. What disposition was to be made of me in the meantime I was unable to learn, but I "'What does this mean? I cried, as soon as I dared speak. 'Why have I was their intention to leave me on the upon the water I felt that I was safe island.

abundance of tropical fruit, while birds of rare and brilliant plumage flew about me through the perfumed air.

"It was about a week subsequent to our landing on the island. I was return- gion till half a dozen had joined in the ing one evening from one of my short chase, excursions inland, when, on crossing a little hill, a strange, startling sound, mile in advance of them now, I recogcoming from the camp in the valley be- nized the fact that there was the greatlow, reached my ears.

"Hastening to the top of the hill I looked down into the little valley, where a strange sight met my gaze. Coming swiftly from a strip of deep forest to the north, leaping over the jagged rocks that covered the hill, I saw a horde of Formosa savages rushing furiously down chance of escape, and that lay in flight. upon the sailors at the camp, brandishing Recognizing this fact I held the little their spears and gesticulating wildly as | eraft full before the wind, which was they ran.

"For a moment I was almost stunefied with surprise and fear. So suddenly had they appeared upon the scene that it seemed as if they had sprung up from the very earth. I recognized in a moment that I as well as the sailers was in the most deadly peril, for the natives of

to the men to run for the boat, but before the order could be obeyed the savages were upon them. I heard the rapid discharge of firearms as the sailors rallied about their leader and sought to repel the advancing foe. Then the lin screaming, maddened natives closed in upon them, and nothing could be seen but a mass of strogeling humanity. It would be impossible for me to describe the fearful scene that followed, in which the boat's crew were every one cut down and literally hacked to pieces before my very eyes.

"At the first appearance of the sav ages I had sunk down behind a clump of pushes, and, lying there upon the ground stupefied with horror, I witnessed that awful scene, the horror of which can never be erased from my memory.

"How long I lay there I cannot tell, for I must have swooned at the terrible eight I had been compelled to witness. The next I remember was of lying there among the bushes trying to recall the past. As soon as I could realize the sitnation I arose and peered down into the valley. The savages had all disappeared as mysteriously as they had come. sun was low in the horizon, and a deathly stillness had fallen over the scene.

"For half an hour I stood there, waiting and listening for sounds of the savages, but at length, hearing nothing to excite my fear, I stepped from the thicket of bushes and stole cautiously down to the little grove where the camp had

been. "There amid the rank shrubbery lay the mangled remains of the ill fated sailors, disfigured beyond recognition. mest paralyzed by the horror of my sit-

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of the necessity of immediate action. It would not do to linger there a moment, DAVIDSON & CASE J.P. Allen, Now Harris, J. H. Allen, P. V. Healt B. Lottland, Jr., France Gesto, L. D. Sataner, Jan. as there was no telling when the savages might again appear upon the scene; but

what was I to do? "Suddenly I thought of the boat. Was it still there, or had it been taken away by the savages? With a beating heart I fairly ran toward the place where it had been left. I could hardly suppress a cry of joy as I pushed through the thick branches to the water's edge and found the boat still there unmolested by the natives. A glance told me that nothing had been removed from the boat save a small portion of the provisions, and I at once resolved to put to sea in it and trust to chance to be picked up by some pass-

"It only required a few moments for me to board the boat and push out into the little bay. I was well skilled in its management, and soon had the sail hoisted to catch the strong off shore breeze that was now blowing. Taking the rudder. I ran swiftly down the inlet to the open sea. A mile farther on I rounded a headland and was standing Everything Kept in a Firstelass Drug Store I heard the sound of many strange voices coming from the shore. Glancing toward a narrow peninsula that lay on my left I saw a band of savages running swiftly toward the water's edge, brandishing their weapons and uttering savage exclamations as they ran.

"A shudder passed over me as I thought of what my fate would be should I fall into their hands. But as I could see no beyond their reach. However, my feel-However, I was allowed my freedom, ing of security was of short duration, and went and came as I pleased. Some- for scarcely had the savages reached the times I would venture quite a distance | water's edge when I saw them scramble inland, wandering over the hills and down among the rocks and disappear through the deep canous, in which grew into what seemed to be a kind of grotto. A moment later a long canoe filled with the natives shot out into the bay and came swiftly in pursuit. Then another and another followed in quick success

"Although I was fully a quarter of a est danger that I would be overhauled

by them. "There were no weapons in the boat with which I could defend myself, but even if there had been I would have stood no chance of repelling a score of blood-There was but one thirsty savages. now growing stronger as I neared the

"But in spite of this I could see that the pursuing canoes were slowly but surely gaining on me. Nearer and nearer they drew, till, glancing back, I could see the fierce look of exultation on the hideons faces of the savages, and hear Formosa are as fierce and warlike as the their wild ejaculations of triumph as Sioux and Apaches of our own country. they bore rapidly down upon me. Fif-"I heard the voice of Peters shouting teen minutes more and they would be within reach of me. With a feeling of despair I lashed the rudder in place; I grasped a plank from the bottom of the boat-the cars had been removed by the robbers-and began to row with it as best I could.

"We had now left the inlet, and were out in the open sea. I cast a hasty glance across the water with the hope of seeing some passing ship, but there was no sign of a suil in sight.

"But now for the first time I notice that an ashy pallor was stealing over the mist covered sky, and with a feeling of joy I knew that the night, which comes down so rapidly in the tropics, was near at hand. A few moments later the darkness had deepened so that only the dim utilines of the pursuing cances were visible through the gloom. A few minules more and they were lost to sight in the black night that settled rapidly over

which I had been rowing I now grasped the rudder again and changed my course to the southeast, while I listened intently to the sound of the pursuers' paddles. A few minutes later I heard them pass on to the north of me, while with a strong wind filling the sails of my boat I bere swiftly and neiselessly away to the south. The noises of the paddles died away in the distance, and I knew that I was safe.

"I continued my course southward until daylight, when I could see the coast of Formosa lying some four or five miles to the west. The next day I rounded South Cape and was picked up by the Jostinette, which had returned and was standing up the Formosa coast

"I was handsomely rewarded for the dawned the sea was stell covered with rounded me roused me to the knowledge | part I had played in restorme the treas-

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with that and I'll give you a quarter.

The man said, "Put the quarter into my

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